

# Washington State Emergency Operations Officer Monthly Report

**January 2017**

Past monthly reports are available via the web at <http://mil.wa.gov/emergency-management-division/alert-warning-center-monthly-report>

CATEGORY	January 2017	January 2016	YTD 2017	YTD 2016
Logged incidents:				
DOE (Department of Energy, Hanford Site)	2	1	2	1
FIRE	5	4	5	4
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS (HAZMAT)	222	269	222	269
OTHER	80	85	80	85
911 SERVICE OUTAGES	1	3	1	3
SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS (SAR)	67	53	67	53
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
INITIAL WEATHER INCIDENTS	3	4	3	4
CGS (Columbia Generating Station)	0	0	0	0
Total number of Logged incidents	380	419	380	419

## Categories not included in the total number of logged incidents above

<i>Evidence Search Mission</i>	3	3	3	3
<i>Additional Weather Alerts (all subsequent alerts that are considered to be part of the initiating weather event)</i>	98	93	98	93

## LEGEND

WEATHER	Weather incidents such as Flooding, High Winds, and Snow
FIRE	Wildland Fire incidents
OTHER	This category includes a wide variety of incidents, including but not limited to Tsunami events, Earthquakes, and Critical Incident Stress Debriefings.

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## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 16-4795
- On January 1, the following weather products remained in effect from December 2016:
    - Winter Storm Warning for Lincoln, Spokane and Whitman Counties. The warning was cancelled at 0930 on January 1.
    - Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands. The warning was cancelled on January 4, ending this weather event.
  - On January 1, the National Weather Service issued a Winter Storm Warning for the Yakima Valley from 1300 on January 1 until 1445 on January 2.
- 17-0013
- On January 1, Snohomish County initiated a search for an elderly male in the Everett area. Additional personnel and 4x4 vehicles were coordinated from King and Pierce Counties to assist. The subject was located in good condition the following day.
- 17-0035
- On January 3, Thurston County conducted a search for an individual missing from a ranch work site in the town of Rainier. Additional search dogs were coordinated from Grays Harbor and Pierce Counties to assist. The mission was closed out on the evening of January 4 with the subject still missing.
- 17-0043
- On January 4, Jefferson County initiated a search for a missing elderly couple near Quilcene and cell phone forensics coordinated from the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center to assist. The couple was found in the early morning of January 5 in good condition.
- 17-0053
- On January 5, the National Weather Service began issuing the following products in advance of an incoming weather system:
    - January 5, Winter Storm Watch from the afternoon of January 7 through the morning of January 8 for the Columbia Gorge affecting Clark, Skamania, Wahkiakum and Cowlitz Counties. The Watch was upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning for Clark, Cowlitz, and Skamania from 1000 on January 7 until 0600 on January 9.
    - January 6, Winter Storm Watch for the Hood Canal area of Kitsap, Mason, and Jefferson Counties from the morning of January 7 through the morning of January 8. The Watch was upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning from 1600 on January 7 until 0500 on January 8.
    - January 6, Winter Storm Warning for the Eastern Columbia River Gorge affecting Klickitat County in effect from 1000 on January 7 until 0400 on January 9.
    - January 6, Winter Storm Warning for the East Slopes of the Washington Cascades of Klickitat, Yakima, and Kittitas Counties and the Simcoe Highlands of Klickitat and Yakima Counties from 1000 on January 7 until 0700 on January 9.
    - January 6, Winter Storm Warning for the Kittitas and Yakima Valleys from 1200 on January 7 until 0400 on January 9.

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- January 6, Winter Storm Watch for the Lower Columbia Basin of Washington and the Foothills of the Blue Mountains of Washington in Benton, Walla Walla, Franklin, Columbia, and Klickitat Counties from the morning of January 7 until the morning of January 9. The Watch was upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning later that same day and was expanded to include Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Kittitas, Klickitat, Walla Walla and Yakima Counties. The Warning was in effect from 1000 on January 7 until 0700 on January 9.
- January 7, Winter Storm Warning for Chelan, Douglas, and Okanogan from 1300 on January 7 until 2245 on January 8.
- January 7, Ice Storm Warning for Clark, Cowlitz and Skamania Counties from 0920 on January 7 until 1900 on January 8.
- January 8, Winter Storm Warning from 0400 on January 8 until 0400 on January 9 for Ferry County and until 0830 on January 9 for Pend Oreille, Stevens and Spokane Counties.
- January 8, High Wind Warning for the Western Columbia River Gorge affecting Clark and Skamania Counties from 0730 on January 8 until 1450 on January 8.
- January 8, High Wind Warning for the East Puget Sound lowlands affecting Pierce, Snohomish, and King Counties from 1030 on January 8 until 1800 on January 8.
- January 9, Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters from 2400 on January 9 until 1200 on January 11.
- January 9, Winter Weather Advisory for the Tacoma metro area until 0900 on January 10.
- January 10, High Wind Warning for San Juan County from 1100 until 2400 on January 10 and for Whatcom County from 1100 on January 10 until 0500 on January 11.
- January 10, High Wind Warning for Grant and Douglas Counties from 2330 on January 10 until 0800 on January 11.
- January 10, Winter Storm Warning for the Western and Central Columbia River Gorge affecting Clark and Skamania Counties from 1215 on January 10 until 1600 on January 12, ending this weather event.

- 17-0087      • On January 8, Mason County initiated a rescue of two people and one dog stuck in the snow near Spider Lake. Snowshoe rescuers from Olympic Mountain Rescue were coordinated for use through Kitsap County. The subjects were rescued in good condition.
- 17-0182      • On January 15, the NWS began issuing the following products in advance of an approaching storm system:
- January 15, Flood Watch for much of southwest Washington through the evening of January 18. The Watch was cancelled on January 18.
  - January 15, Winter Storm Watch for Adams, Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Grant, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, and Stevens Counties until January 18.

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- January 15, Winter Storm Watch for the Cascades of Whatcom and Skagit Counties from the evening of January 16 through the morning of January 17. On January 16, the Watch was extended until 2200 on January 16
- January 15, Winter Storm Watch for the Cascades of Snohomish and King Counties from the evening of January 16 through the afternoon of January 17. The watch was cancelled at 2200 on January 16.
- January 16, High Wind Watch for the South Washington Coast from the afternoon of January 16 through the morning of January 17.
- January 16, Winter Storm Watch for Southwest Washington from the morning of January 16 through the afternoon of January 16.
- January 16, Winter Storm Watch for Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla, and Columbia Counties from January 17 through January 18.
- January 16, Flood Watch for portions of Clallam, Jefferson, Grays Harbor, Mason, and Whatcom Counties from January 17 through January 18. The Watch was cancelled at 1500 on January 18.
- January 16, Winter Storm Warning for the Cascades of Snohomish, King, Pierce, and Lewis Counties effective January 17 to January 18. The Warning for Pierce and Lewis was cancelled later the same day, and cancelled for Snohomish and King on January 17.
- January 16, Winter Storm Warning for the east slopes of the northern Cascades affecting Okanogan and Chelan Counties effective January 17 through January 19.
- January 16, Ice Storm Warning for the east slopes of the northern Cascades, Wenatchee and Moses Lake areas and the south Cascades and Columbia River Gorge of Skamania County effective January 17 through January 18.
- January 16, Gale Warning for the northern Inland Waters until January 18.
- January 16, Ice Storm Warning for the Greater Vancouver area from 0400 on January 16 to 2200 on January 17.
- January 16, Winter Storm Watch for the Eastern Columbia River Gorge of Washington in Klickitat County from 1000 on January 17 through the morning of January 18.
- January 17, Ice Storm Warning for the east slopes of the Cascades and the Eastern Columbia River Gorge until late on January 18.
- January 17, Winter Storm Warning until 1600 on January 18 for Snohomish and King Counties.
- January 17, Flood Watch until the evening of January 18 for the White River on the border of King and Pierce Counties.
- January 17, Flood Watch for most of eastern Washington from January 18 through January 19. The Watch was cancelled on January 18.
- January 17, High Wind Warning for the Willapa Hills affecting Pacific and Wahkiakum Counties until January 18.
- January 17, High Wind Warning for the north and central coast, western Whatcom and Skagit Counties and Island and San Juan Counties until the evening of January 18.

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- January 17, Ice Storm Warning for the Upper Columbia Basin area of Okanogan, Grant, Lincoln, Adams, and Douglas Counties and the Spokane area of Spokane and Lincoln Counties until 1000 on January 18. The Warning was cancelled for Spokane and North Lincoln Counties at 0720 on January 18 and the remainder expired at 1000.
- January 17, Gale Warning extended for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands and Admiralty Inlet in effect until 0900 on January 18.
- January 17, Flood Warning for the Skokomish River near Potlatch in Mason County from the morning of January 17 until January 19.
- January 17, Ice Storm Warning for the Lower Columbia Basin of Washington including Benton, Walla Walla, Franklin, and Klickitat Counties in effect until 1200 on January 18. The warning was extended to 1600 on January 18.
- January 18, Gale Warning extended for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands and Admiralty Inlet until 1300 on January 18.
- January 18, Skamania County declared a local emergency due to winter storm activity.
- January 20, High Surf Advisory in effect from 0400 to 1900 on January 21 affecting the South Washington Coast of Pacific County and 0001 to 1800 on January 21 for the North and Central Coast of Clallam, Jefferson, and Grays Harbor Counties. The Advisory for the North and Central Coast was cancelled at 1530 on January 21. The expiration of these advisories ended the event.

- 17-0192      • On January 16, the Department of Energy Hanford reported an Abnormal Event involving a broken fire riser branch line off the main header in the Plutonium Finishing Plant. The event was cleared by the incident commander after the broken riser was isolated. There were no radiologic releases or injuries as a result of this event.
- 17-0275      • On January 23, the Washington State Patrol issued an Amber Alert for a child abducted from New Westminster, BC Canada on January 22 and believed to have crossed into Washington at the Blaine border crossing. The Amber Alert for Makayla Estrada Weber was cancelled when the subjects and their vehicle were located by the Bellingham police.
- 17-0305      • On January 25, Sound Transit reported a train had hit a trespasser in Seattle on January 23, resulting in a fatality.
- 17-0325      • On January 27, the Department of Energy Hanford Site reported an Abnormal Event involving a radiation monitoring alarm sounding near the demolition area of the Plutonium Finishing Plant in the 200 West Area. The facility was placed in a precautionary take cover while the alarm was investigated. The facility shift manager confirmed that the alarm was valid and contamination was found

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outside of a contamination zone. No personnel were contaminated and the event was contained within the facility's boundaries. Clean-up of the contamination was ongoing following termination of the event.

- 17-0342      • On January 29, Snohomish County requested ground searchers from Pierce, King, Skagit and Whatcom Counties to help pack-out a hiker with a broken leg. The request was later cancelled when the subject was flown to a hospital via helicopter.
- 17-0347      • On January 29, the NWS began issuing the following products in advance of an approaching storm system:
- January 29, Winter Storm Watch for Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield and Asotin Counties until the evening of January 30.
  - January 30, Winter Storm Warning for Columbia and northern portions of Garfield Counties from 2200 January 30 to 0400 February 1.
  - January 30, Winter Storm Watch for Asotin, Whitman, and Garfield Counties from the evening of January 30 to late evening January 31. This was later modified to a Winter Weather Advisory.
  - January 31, Winter Storm Warning for Franklin, Benton and Walla Walla Counties from the afternoon to 1800 on January 31. The Warning was cancelled later that day.
  - January 31, Winter Storm Watch for Clark, Cowlitz, Pacific, Skamania and Wahkiakum Counties from the evening of February 2 to late evening of February 3.
  - The event continued into February.

## *SEOO Activity for the current month:*

198	Warnings issued to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies.
117	Warnings issued to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies.
1257	Notifications conducted to state and local agencies for imminent or occurring emergencies.
7	Resources coordinated for search, rescue, recovery and response operations.

- Participated in 7 exercises of which 2 were vessel spill drills.

## *Conducted the following tests:*

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<b><i>Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)</i></b>	<b><i>Frequency of tests</i></b>	<b><i>Number of tests completed this month</i></b>	<b><i>Total number of stations tested this month</i></b>	<b><i>Number of stations responding during tests initiated by the Alert and Warning Center</i></b>	<b><i>Contact Success rate for those tests initiated by the Alert and Warning Center</i></b>
NAWAS	Twice daily	122	1920	1846	96%
STAEN	At least twice per month	0	0	0	0%
CEMNET	At least 3 per week	13	358	83	23%

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<i>Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)</i>	<i>Frequency of tests</i>	<i>Number of tests completed this month</i>	<i>Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)</i>	<i>Frequency of tests</i>	<i>Number of tests completed this month</i>
Dedicated phone line test for DOE	At least 1 per week	5	AHAB Siren test	At least 1 per month	1
Dedicated phone line test for CGS	At least 1 per week	7	OPSCAN test	1 per day	27
AHAB Daily Function status	1 per day	30	King County 800 MHz Radio System tests	At least 1 per week	4

## *Test information/definitions:*

- NAWAS: National Warning System Tests (NAWAS) over the State and Federal circuits. NAWAS connects over 1,800 State and Federal jurisdictions and agencies on the Federal circuit and all counties, some agencies and some tribes on the State circuit. there are 4 tests a day, testing 66 drops on 2 circuits. The number above reflects the 4 tests a day. Previously the number included the total number of stations contacted during those tests.
- DOE tests: Department of Energy Hanford Site has a dedicated phone and fax line into the EOC and they are tested at least weekly. Only the voice phone line numbers are reported here
- CGS tests: Columbia Generating Station has a dedicated phone and fax line into the EOC and they are tested at least weekly. Only the voice phone line numbers are reported here.
- AHAB: All Hazards Alert Broadcast System is tested daily through the daily function tests, which tests the functional capability of all coastal and Puget Sound siren systems. The voice and tone sirens are tested monthly. The AHAB Siren activates the coastal and Puget Sound voice and tone sirens during tsunami and other hazardous incidents.
- OPSCAN: Olympic Peninsula Public Safety Alliance Network (OPSCAN) connects public safety organizations throughout the Olympic Peninsula.
- STAEN: The State Agency Emergency Network (STAEN) connects state agency via an 800 MHz radio system.
- CEMNET: Comprehensive Emergency Management Network radio connecting all counties and many cities via Zetron Radio Console.
- King County 800 MHz System connects the Alert and Warning Center with King County key emergency management and response organizations.